



## **English Curriculum Rationale**

At Belvedere Infant and Junior Schools, our English curriculum is designed to develop children's love of reading, writing and discussion and prepare our learners for life as successful, valuable and socially responsible citizens of both their local community and the world as a whole. We aim to encourage an appreciation of our rich and varied literary heritage and a habit of reading widely and often. We nurture a culture where children take pride in their writing, can write clearly, imaginatively and accurately and adapt their language and style for a range of contexts. Our children are inspired to be confident in speaking and listening and to use discussion to communicate and further their learning in all areas of the curriculum. These aims are embedded across our English lessons and in the wider curriculum, where expectations of writing (including handwriting) are consistently high and children continue to develop speaking and listening skills while also being presented with a range of stimulating reading materials to widen their vocabulary.

We know that to be successful citizens, children need to develop a secure knowledge-base in Literacy, which follows a clear pathway of progression as they advance through the primary years. Our carefully sequenced, broad and balanced curriculum, underpinned by inclusive, evidence-based practice, aims to provide our children with the opportunity to build on their experiences in order to achieve their goals. We believe that a secure basis in literacy skills is crucial to becoming a well-rounded member of society and a confident, successful adult, ready to face the future. This will also equip them with the skills and knowledge to take risks and embrace the diversity offered in the literary experiences they are exposed to across all areas of the curriculum. Children at Belvedere are encouraged to use the knowledge gained through reading, writing and oracy to aim further and reach higher.